



Bottke Newsletter



“Feeding the Family Tree” December Holiday Season 2005

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BWCA Paddlers © 2004 canoeecountry.com

Mark and Patty Bergman from Soldiers Grove, WI canoed and portaged in several remote areas of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Of Northern Minnesota



Braydon Bottke just arrived recently from Korea and is the newly adopted son of Jason and Michelle Bottke



“It’s all about Sports”: Barbara, “Little Jerry” and Jerry Castro in Chicago.



Erich & Lydia Bottke;Torkelow, Germany celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniverary (Silber Hochzeit) in January 2005. The flowers in their Torkelow gardens all bloomed beautifully this past fall . Erich & Lydia send Holiday Greetings to all Bottke’s in America.



Don Longpre, Marv & Carole Bottke, Gladys Longpre and Kevin Bottke have noon lunch in Kevin’s Tiki Bar that he built from scratch.



Edward Bottke shows grandma the candles he made for his mother , Shonda, for her birthday.



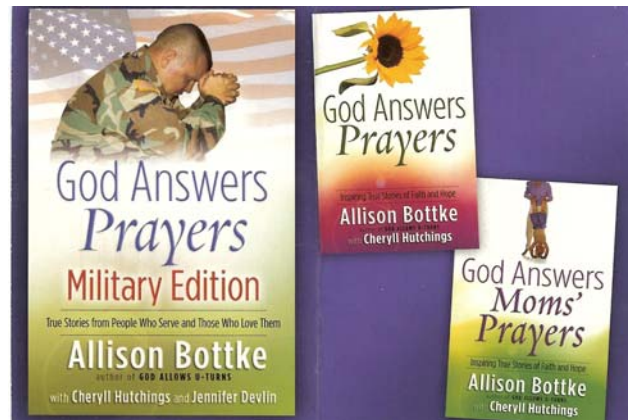
Tom Ackman, Coldwell Banker Real Estate; Detroit Lakes, Mn; He and his wife May live in Rochert, Mn. On Island Lake



September '05 Rear: Helen Boldt, Sandy (Ballenthin)VanErp, and May Bottke. Seated in front: Harold Boldt,



Les & Carol (Plank) Bottke wed November 5, 2005



Allison Bottke is "on the road" a lot promoting her "God Allows U Turns Book series.



Brian and Michael McDonough pose in a hug at the Roehrick annual July get together in Faribault, Mn.



Oct. '05: Waiting for Pizza platter to be delivered and placed on top of pineapple cans at Don Ho's restaurant, Aloha Tower in Honolulu. Marv and Carole say "Mele Kalikamaka" which is Hawaiian for 'Merry Christmas'.

2005 Happenings

Words from the Evans Family in Alamogordo NM.

“Everything is going good out here. The weather has been really nice.” Charles and Mary continue to enjoy maximum benefits of their retirement lifestyle. They are especially joyful to have made it through the discomforts and set backs from Charles’ knee troubles that lingered for such a long time.

Linda Jean and Murphy are also winding down. On the one hand they are in retirement while on the other hand they are moving forward with their special interest in the natural health supplements that they represent.

We were also advised that Patty and Mark Bergman in Wisconsin had taken a trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe area in Northern Minnesota where they portaged (carried their canoes) point to point in this wilderness area of back waters, forest, and wildlife. The arrangement is such that the canoe outfitter company takes the guests out to an area at the end of the road and drops them off with a map. They explain how they will pick you up in X number of Days at a certain location on the map. This makes for a true wilderness outdoor adventure. It is not uncommon to see moose, deer, bear, and maybe a bald eagle nesting in a tree top. There are no motors, no man made noises back there and nothing polluting the waters or forests.

Rita and Patty will be visiting Charles and Mary in Alamogordo again after the first of the year. What a great time to visit New Mexico.

News from the Bottke descendents in Chicago: (Children of Raymond Bottke)

Hi from Ramona. Things are good, Shirley and Steve moved back here, From Missouri. They are now living in Alsip. Steve is going to make the turkey this year for Thanksgiving. Melinda always does Christmas. We are always so busy at work, so I have to put in a lot of overtime.

From Barb & Jerry Castro, Orland Park IL.:

Angelina is Playing 8th grade girls basketball at her school.

Robbie works for a title company in downtown Chicago. He drives from home to the train station

where he takes the train to his place of work downtown. (Chicago train service is excellent)

Jerry is in college at River Forest. He’s not on the football team this year, but he will be next year.

Spunky, their dog is over two years old now. Their *Coach’s Corner* Sports bar is doing very well.

Irma, Mom’s youngest sister who lived in Missouri (also from Germany) passed away this last year. She was only 60. And Barbara also expressed how they all miss their Dad (Ray).

News from Don and Gladys Longpre

Don has carpal tunnel in both hands. He had surgery on his one hand November 21st. He’ll also be having surgery on his other hand.

Harold and Diane are kept very busy; Harold with his own accounting business and Diane is teaching computer classes 32 hours a week.

Rebecca is in her second year in college at Austin College in Sherman, Tx.

Jeremy is a freshman and plays varsity basketball at Texas Christian High School.

And Matthew, as much as he’d like to be playing basketball this year, he can’t do it, as he has a broken wrist. He’s a Junior this year.

In Denver, Tiffany is kept quite busy working.

Kristin recently took a trip with her Mother-in-law who works for Frontier Airlines. They went to San Francisco and explored the city.

Lee has a brother in Las Vegas, and a friend George who has a business in Havasu City. This has kept Lee on the go. He’s doing some work for his brother and has been driving some truck also for his friend.

News from Kevin Bottke:

Kermit and Jen Bottke live in Rochester, MN now and Lucia is already 10 months old. Jen works at the Mayo Clinic.

Mandy Bottke lives in St. Paul and sells real estate.

Kyle Bottke has become one of the star sales people at Dokmo Ford in Northfield, Mn.

Kevin continues with his career in Real Estate and property management. Willie Nelson remains his favorite entertainer and singer. Kevin Rented a big van to transport a large group of his family members including Gladys and Don Longpre to attend one of Willie Nelson’s concerts recently in LaCrosse, Wi.

Allison travels a lot. She promotes her "God Allows U Turn" series of publications which are doing very well.

Christopher Smith, Allison's son, had a very serious Motorcycle accident in September. Prayers were answered and Christopher is at his home but recovery is slow. Healing takes time.

From Jason and Michelle Bottke; Lonsdale, Mn.

Alexis is already 3 years old and now has her adopted brother Brayden who just arrived from Korea

A special note from E-mail from Michelle Bottke:

Hi Everyone

We survived our long plane rides and made it home on Tuesday. (Nov 8th) We are all a little tired. Brayden has his days and nights turned around right now and at first he would only let Jason hold him. This also included the 15 hours in the air. He would scream anytime I or anyone else tried to hold him on the airplane! Wow that was hard. But he is getting better he even let me feed him last night. Our trip was a lot of fun. But we were very happy to arrive home. Thanks to everyone who was able to make it to the airport. It was great to arrive home with you there to welcome us. Alexis missed us a lot but Aunt Kelly and Family, Aunt Amy and Grandma and Grandpa did a great job of keeping her busy (Thank You). Alexis is a little jealous and is acting up a bit. But she is really actually a big helper and hugs and kisses her brother all the time. She is always wanting to hold him. I am sending some pictures as an attachment.(See cover page) He is a very active boy, crawling all over and into anything he can get in his mouth. Enough for now. I'm sure we will be seeing all of you soon.

Love,

The Bottke's

(Jason, Michelle, Alexis & Brayden)

From Alan and Carol Bottke

Alan is still hauling for BTM. (Bituminous Materials) It's been a busy summer and they're working late into the season this year. Melissa is working in pharmacy and may be going out to San Diego. Our house is too big for us now so we're going to build a smaller one.

Carol still does hair for residents at assisted living places.

Happenings in the lives of Lon and Teresa Bottke, Virginia MN;

Lon and Teresa visited the Pinkston Family, (Teresa family) in Alabama just recently. They spent a week there. For Teresa it was great to see her grandchild; nieces, nephews, sister and parents. For Lon, he was met with Alabama hospitality and was enjoyed by all the new relatives.

Teresa works in the Alzheimer wing of an assisted living facility in Virginia. She gets lots of praise, recognition for her expertise in caring for the residents who have Alzheimers. Whenever a staff person encounters a situation where special skills are required in dealing with a resident, they call on Teresa.

Lon works for the Super One Food chain in Virginia Mn. and is one of the main bakers on the "graveyard" shift. The mother of one of his coworkers was in the movie "North Country" which is playing at many theatres now. He says the movie is based on a true story, but according to the coworker, it is not accurate. Lon is a chip off of told block. He can be quick witted just like his late Grandpa Ed. When it was explained to him that Les married a girl named "Carol" and since Mom's name is Carole, and Alan is married to a "Carol" there are three Carol Bottkes; Lon immediately responded with, Well, with Christmas coming, that'll sure put a whole new twist on 'Bottke Caroling'.

Les Bottke remarries:

And Yes, LES remarried. He married Carol Plank. (Photo page 2) He met her a couple years ago and they became friends through church. They were married November 5th in Mansfield, (South of Fort Worth) at one of the chapels owned by his company. We Welcome Carol and the children into the family and will be having Thanksgiving dinner together. Tony is 14, Joshua is 11, and Faith is 7. They call us Grandpa and Grandma and we love it.

E-mail from Perry, Shonda and Edward Bottke:

Edward's doing really well. His report card was all A's and he's on the honor roll. He received a special recognition blue card for citizenship (that's a good thing.) His teachers all think he's great. He's also really concentrating on the cello. He's studying with a private teacher who was highly recommended and with whom he's established an excellent repore.

Shonda's still at the University of Michigan. She's working 25 hours a week now instead of 20. That's good for the budget.

Aside from his full time stressful position at Activeaero which operates at Willow Run airport in Detroit, Perry is teaching flight dispatch training again. He'll be kept busy at the school for the next 16 weeks. Since there are no classes between Christmas and New Years they hope to make it to Minnesota to spend Christmas with the Roehrick family.

From Marvin & Carole:

We keep Brother Wayne in our thoughts and prayers. He's been in the Hospital recently with balance and equilibrium difficulties. They haven't come up with a clear diagnosis at the time of this newsletter (to the best of our knowledge) but he is home. He is hoping to clear up the uncertainties soon.

Jim and Nancy Morton, Grantsburg, Wi

Jim had not been feeling well early this fall and was diagnosed and treated for Lymes disease. We keep him also in our thoughts and prayers.

Nancy recently visited old friends and acquaintances in Kingman.

If all goes as planned at this time, Marv and Carole will be taking them on an "untouristy" guided tour of Munich and part of Bavaria in April.

September '05 at a Pizza Buffet in Waseca Minnesota

Susan Stock (Lavern and Jean Goedtel's daughter) from Janesville recognizes us walking across the parking lot and coming in the door. She and Ed and their family are all enjoying an evening buffet with mom and dad and grandpa and grandma (Laverne and Jean Goedtel) We enjoyed a few moments of

quick conversation while we also had an opportunity to meet the twins.

We learned that Waseca is a mid point between Faribault and Janesville. It allows both families to meet and all get together more easily.

We exchanged conversation about family things. Then the subject came around to music. Marv explains he has this grand piano he'd bought in May but the wife says he must get rid of it because it takes up too much space. Ed Stock says, "I'd get rid of the wife; but then I guess being a band director, I'd say that." Ed teaches music in Mankato, and works also part time at Burkhartzmeyer shoes in Faribault. The next morning we met Ed again at Bernies restaurant in Faribault. "What a coincidence", we said. Ed responds; "Are we going to start hugging too now?"

Rochert, Mn. And Island Lake

Tom Ackman, we learned, sometimes makes a stop in Faribault on his way to Waterville to visit the family of his wife May. Tom graduated from Bethlehem Academy in Faribault. He's the son of Lucille (Bottke) Ackman and nephew to Helen Boldt. Tom, (or Tommy) sells real estate in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. On our last visit with Tom at May Bottke's Birthday celebration in Faribault, Tom talked about living on Island Lake. We aren't sure if Tom is aware that a song has been written about Island Lake. It has been used to help promote Minnesota tourism. The song is available on CD. Here are a few lines from a portion of the song

A Day On Island Lake**Words and music by Glen Everhart**

...An hour before daybreak, we carry our canoe, a half a mile or so, till we reach her quiet shore. Then the silence of the morning, is broken only by our paddles, and the lonely distant cry, of a loon. Now we're fishin', and on my first cast, I catch a memory that will last, then I release it back, to Island Lake.

Then sunrise, just above the trees, accompanied by a gentle breeze, that drifts us across the bay on Island Lake

As I think back on the friendships, I have made here on this water, I can almost hear their laughter, through the early morning fog. But I cannot help but wonder, if the sound of distant thunder, fortells us of a future, and a land that's changed forever.

For Tom Ackman, Island lake is his place of peace and tranquility between appointments and busy days in the real estate office in Detroit Lakes.

“THE ACORN DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE”

James Boldt not only follows his father's footsteps, He's making an even bigger footprint. Harold was with the Trinity Radio Club in Faribault when it first started. (That is a full story on its own and more will follow about that at a future date). For years you would often hear the voice of Harold Boldt over the 920 KDHL airwaves at 8 am Sunday mornings from the announcers room off to the side of the altar at Trinity Lutheran Church in Faribault.

Harold passed his 90th birthday this year and he and his wife Helen have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. While he has been retired from the mission work of the Trinity Radio club a number of years already, his son Jimmy is active in many ways. Nothing has changed with the Sunday morning 8 am Trinity radio broadcast on KDHL. This continues as it has for maybe 50 years or more. But, the Radio club now also has a website: www.radionvideo.org

At that website, you can watch videos of church broadcasts from Trinity Lutheran Church. The radio Club is now a separate entity, independent of Trinity Lutheran Church. They have several thousands of dollars worth of new high tech audio and video equipment. And this is something Jimmy has been a part of. But that's not all. Jim is a full time employee of Target in Northfield and he's a family man. He his wife Nancy have 3 grown children. Besides that, Jimmy is actively involved in the Sudanese Mission program through Trinity Church in Faribault. He has been doing this for several years and has traveled to Sudan where he helped oversee getting a well drilled to supply water for an impoverished community. (See prior newsletter).

At this time Jim is helping prepare the Sudanese group of worshippers at Trinity so they can spin off and have a congregation of their own.

As children of Jim and Nancy, and Grandchildren to Harold and Helen, the younger generation has done well too. Jodi finished her education at the University of Minnesota in nurses training and is an RN. She and Jonathan Bjorkman married just this past August.

Sarah attends Gustavus Adolphus College and is co captain of the ladies basketball team there. She has played basketball with her team in Ireland and England. She is studying physical education.

Ryan is married and Harold and Helen will be Great grandparents for the first time in January.

Other Bottke's

May Bottke is a busy lady. Harold advises that if you want to talk to May you have to call her at 8 in the morning before she leaves the house for the day. (She must be another one of those retired people who ask themselves, "I wonder how I ever had time to work.")

The photo on the front page was through the courtesy of Sandy (Ballenthin) Van Erp who has maintained ties with the Wm. Bottke family for many years. Sandy's father, Herman Ballenthin worked at St. Mary's School in Faribault. Herman worked with William Bottke Sr., Max Adam, and Harvey Goedel. They all worked at St. Mary's. Sandy has hopes that she will be able to collect and preserve some of the stories and photos of Harold Boldt's early day Trinity Radio Club history. She also has made up some web page archive links.

Thank You:

We thank each and every one of you for responding and providing information for the Christmas Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be in June of 2006. **Send Information MAY 1ST**. E mail it, snail mail it; or give us a call. Our phone is 817 685 0921. Or our Cell: 817 692 8183. Address and E-mail on front page heading.

Henry and Frieda Bottke have a number of descendants who either live or were born in California. Aside from Mary and Charles Evans and Family, we have yet to meet some of the other Bottke descendants from Henry.

We send special Holiday greetings to these relatives and their family members: Barbara Cleaver, Eric Cleaver, Theresa Rodriguez, Betty English, Donna English, Terry Delmerico, and Diana Caudle. Hope remains that Carole and I will have an opportunity to meet some of these relatives from Henry and Frieda's branch of the Bottke tree someday.

The following addresses need to be updated. Shawn Meissner; Jerry Goedel; Sara Purdy; Barbara Cleaver; Betty English; Terry Delmerico; and Heli and Rachel. If you know the current address of any of these people, would you mind verifying it and letting us know the current address so we can keep the mailing list up to date.

Paul Bottke of Iowa Falls recently sent a letter informing us that all the Iowa Bottke's are doing just fine these days. They are not exactly looking forward to winter and cold weather, but summer and fall was extremely nice this year.

Paul also forwarded a brochure of information from a "Family News" company in Denver, Colorado. It is advertising a 2005 International Bottke Family Yearbook and promotes a CD ROM that supposedly contains a wealth of Bottke information.

As an enticement it says there is information about Bottke marriages, Births, gathering places and other records. It says that 10 Bottke Households live in Michigan as of 1999 and that Michigan has the largest state gathering of Bottke's.

It also states that there was a Eugene Bottke who had the longevity record of Bottke's. He lived from 1879 to 1999 in Ft. Lauderdale Florida.

Anyone interested in this information could go on line and visit the website for the company at www.ourfamilyyearbook.com

Or write to Bottke Family Yearbook <> 1181 S. Parker Rd <> Suite 105 <> Denver Co. 80231-2152. Request a copy of this unique Bottke Book and CD ROM and Newsletter. Include \$39.85 for 1 copy, \$99.99 for three copies plus a \$5.00 order processing Fee.

Paul Bottke wrote that he'd gotten a letter many years ago about a Bottke book and ordered it and found it to be quite a disappointment. I have to agree. This is not something that looked to be very accurate to me as I had ordered a book like that once

also. This sounds like an updated version of the same mass produced information that is made to sell and make money on.

Yes, there are several Bottke's in Michigan in the Saginaw area. Mr. And Mrs. Jim Bottke in Wixom are on our mailing list and we send them our Newsletter and they share it with Bottke's in that area. We have no idea if there's a connection but probably if we go back to North East Pommerania at some point in time, we all connect.

We've located an excellent source for research out of Hamburg, Germany. Haven't been willing to part with the cost for the services yet. The possibilities look good, but it is quite pricey.

German Traditions at Christmas time:

Candles, wreaths, advent calendars; gingerbread houses, nutcrackers, gluhwein, and other events, activities, or items are all a part of German tradition at Christmas time. Here's another tradition you may not have heard of. Perhaps some of the young single girls would like to try it.

This is one of the most popular German traditions dating back to the 18th century. It's still practiced today. It's called "**Barbara twigs**". On December 4th, St. Barbara's Day, people cut off twigs from cherry trees and place them in a vase in the house. Unmarried girls of the household attach slips of paper to each of the branches with names of suitable bachelors to the twigs. The branch that blossoms first, generally at Christmas, suggests a forthcoming marriage between a girl and the suitor named on the note.

Gluhwein (Hot spiced Wine)

There are many recipes available nowadays for Gluhwein. Some suggest specific kinds of wine for different flavors. Here's one from German life magazine that is typical and basic.

Start with 6 cups or two standard bottles of dry red wine. (They suggest an inexpensive red jug wine) Add 1 to 1&1/2 cups of sugar. (Some say even less than 1 cup unless you like SWEET)

1 stick of cinnamon

12 whole cloves

1 lemon thinly sliced and seeded

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Combine all ingredients in a large non reactive saucepan using more or less sugar according to your taste. Cook over medium heat until the mixture comes to a boil and remove from the heat. Strain the Gluhwein through a sieve into heatproof glasses or mugs. Serve hot.

Singing Christmas Carols at family get togethers

With smaller homes, fewer musical instruments, fewer players to lead the music for singing, some people have discovered Christmas Karaoke CD's to be a nice add in at family get togethers. A small boom box or home stereo will suffice for playing the CD. Target, or Wal-mart often carry a small inventory of Karaoke CD's. Large music specialty stores have them for sure. There are a number of Background orchestrations for Christmas Carols available. You may need to print out songsheets for the traditional carols, but in many cases, everyone knows them anyway.

You're an Old Timer if you remember growing up in Faribault, or if you can identify with this nostalgia:

Penny candy from the store, hopscotch, butterscotch, skates with keys, jacks.

Hula hoops and sunflower seeds, wax lips and mustaches, Ardis Serls saddle shoes and bobby socks, and coke bottles with the names of cities on the bottom.

Running through the sprinkler, spoolies, bobby pins, Mickey Mouse Club, Rocky & Bullwinkle, Kookla, Fran, & Ollie, Axel & Carmen.

Climbing trees, making forts, lemonade stands, cops & robbers, cowboys & Indians, staring at the clouds, jumping on the bed, pillow fights, walking to the movie theater, running till you were out of breath, laughing so hard that your stomach hurt.

Sock hops at School, where you learned how to dance. Walking downtown afterwards to the Olympia for a cherry coke.

Not wearing a cap because it wasn't cool.

How about the homecoming snake dance and bonfire at Teepeetonga Park. It snaked all the way up town and guess where you ended up? (The Olympia.)

Long noon hours in the old high school. Buying two (good tasting) hot dogs and a Coke at the court house for lunch and getting change back from a dollar.

The musical, "Oklahoma"; the movie "Refer Madness".

The "Three D's" of Dundas, Dine and Dance. The Melody Mill, Gingham Inn, and Sam's.

Phy Ed and Mr. Luthsinger

Mr. Tiesberg in that white suit directing the band in concert and then playing 14 marches; or Mrs. Silvis directing the choir with her silver hair.

Duck tails and Elvis singing "Hound Dog", or the Four Lads singing "Graduation day".

The Dandeleet Brothers tipping their hats with respect in greeting you on the street.

Old 4th Street: Frank F. Storch & Sons, Valentines Grocery, and Sowers Grocery. The McQuay strike, Haws Grocery, Jack Sprat Foods, Piggly Wiggly, and the Rainbow Cafe. Whirla Whippets, Unsers A&W, root beer floats and Maid Rites.

V8 Fords. Nash Ambassadors from Gus Borchert with fully reclining seats. Chevy Power Glides. and Buick Dynaflos. Push button Drive.

And Christmas Bags of Fruit, Nuts and Candy.

The cost was 50 cents. Parents paid in advance of the school Christmas program. Individual names were called to come and get their bags after the program. Contained therein were unwrapped fruits, thrown in with a loose mix of nuts and candies. Then, there were those unwrapped chocolate covered extra sweet pyramid shaped 100% sugar candies that almost made you sick from being so sweet. We all ate that mixture and yet no one died from germs.

Maybe it was 50 years ago. (Many Bottke branches did not grow up in Faribault, but some of the things mentioned may be similar in your own hometown) But after all these years, it's nice too look back and recognize this one thing:

HEY, THIS WAS FARIBAULT, Minnesota